

# HEADLINES



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## *Inside this issue:*

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Kaleidoscope success<br>Photo story | 2 |
| Assistive Loan Program              | 3 |
| Calendar                            | 4 |

## *New Phone Service Available for Individuals with Speech Disabilities*

Whether you're calling your neighbor, your doctor, or a business, it's important to be understood. Many individuals with acquired brain injuries have difficulty speaking, and therefore have trouble using the telephone to communicate. There is a new telephone service available for individuals with speech disabilities called Speech to Speech or STS. This service provides communication assistants (CAs) for individuals who have difficulty being understood by the public on the telephone. The STS service is free and available 24 hours a day. STS is provided through the TTY relay in each state. However,

unlike TTY, STS enables people with speech disabilities to communicate by voice through a CA, as many people with speech disabilities also have difficulty typing. In order to use the service, individuals dial a toll free number to reach a trained CA who is familiar with many speech patterns and has excellent language recognition skills. The CA makes telephone calls for the individual and repeats their words exactly in a 3-way calling environment. The STS number for Kentucky is 1-888-244-6111. In order to report problems, or get more information, call the STS customer service line at 1-800-735-0373. Visit the STS website at [www.stsnews.com](http://www.stsnews.com)!

## Welcome New providers

- Kentucky Independent Case Management: *Lexington Case Management*
- Psychological Associates of Paducah: *Paducah Counseling and Training, Behavior Programming*
- North Key Community Care Center: *Ft. Thomas Case Management, Companion Services, Respite, Behavior Programming, Counseling and Training*
- Murray Calloway County Home Health: *Murray Personal Care, Companion*

## TBI Resources:

### Brain Injury Websites

- [www.tbichat.org](http://www.tbichat.org) Includes 7 different TBI chat rooms including a chat room for caregivers, and a message board for kids. Also includes member stories, poems and writings.
- [www.kyatloan.org](http://www.kyatloan.org) Official website of the KY Assistive Technology Loan Program
- <http://chs.state.ky.us/kchip> Provides information about the Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program
- <http://www.ncpad.org> Features National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD) national resource directories of facilities, programs, and events concerned with physical activity and disability
- [KYP2P@aol.com](mailto:KYP2P@aol.com) Email address for information about PiNK (Parent Information Network of Kentucky, Inc.)
- [Kyspin.sky1.net](http://Kyspin.sky1.net) Information about KY SPIN (KY-Special Parent Involvement Network, Inc.)
- [www.QualityMall.org](http://www.QualityMall.org) Showcase of promising practices and innovations that promote person-centered approaches and quality of life for persons with developmental disabilities.

# KALEIDOSCOPE, INC. OPEN HOUSE A SUCCESS!!!!



**Clockwise l-r:** Bridgett Dearing, Kaleidoscope's Program assistant manages the roulette table. Joey and Marie Chesser enjoy a game of blackjack. Darla Bailey, background, and Liz Sneed, Kaleidoscope administrators, greet guests at the Open House.

Pizza and casino games were enjoyed by many attendees at the recent open house event welcoming CenterPOINT participants and staff to their new location at Kaleidoscope, Inc.

A tour of the facilities and future plans for expansion were provided by Darla Bailey and Liz Sneed, Administrators of Kaleidoscope, Inc. "We at Kaleidoscope, Inc., believe that the services that both agencies are providing are essential to the brain injured community and are committed to making them more comprehensive and available in the State of Kentucky," says Ms. Bailey and Ms. Sneed.

CenterPOINT staff Cindy Brown and Lynn Dodd will continue with the program and bring with them valuable experience working with people who have brain injuries.



## Kentucky Assistive Technology Low Interest Loan Program

**Amy DiLorenzo**  
ABI Program Specialist

There is a new low interest loan program in Kentucky designed to help Kentuckians with disabilities, including those with brain injuries, obtain assistive technology to improve their independence and quality of life. The Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan program (KATLP) is funded by both private and public money.

Any person who either has a disability that permanently affects a major life activity, or is a family member or caretaker of a person with a disability, and who has been a resident of Kentucky for at least six consecutive months may apply for a loan to purchase assistive technology.

Nonprofit organizations that provide assistive technology to individuals with disabilities may also apply if they can demonstrate how the adaptive equipment will be used for potential customers. However, requests

*“Assistive technology is defined as ‘any item, piece of equipment or device that enables an individual with a disability to improve his or her independence and quality of life.’”*

for loans from individuals who meet the disability and assistive technology requirements will be given priority over requests for loans from nonprofit organizations.

Assistive technology is defined as “any item, piece of

equipment or device that enables an individual with a disability to improve his or her independence and quality of life.” Examples include computers, augmentative communication devices, wheelchair ramps, memory aid devices and van lifts.

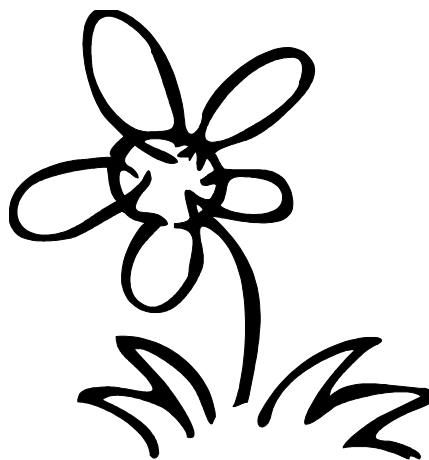
Through the KATLP, an individual can borrow up to \$25,000 at a 6% fixed interest rate. The length of the loan depends on the life expectancy of the device. The KATLP works in conjunction with Fifth Third Bank and the Kentucky Housing Corporation to provide this loan program.

**Applications for the loan program may be obtained by calling toll free 1-877-675-0195, in Lexington at (859) 246-2540, or TDD at (859) 246-2546. The completed applications and necessary documentation should be mailed to:**

Program Manager  
KY Assistive Technology Loan  
Program  
PO Box 12231  
Lexington, KY 40581-2231

### FYI...

- The ABI Medicaid Waiver Program amendments have been submitted to HCFA and the Brain Injury Services Unit is responding to their questions.
- A Spanish language version of the ABI Medicaid Waiver Program Brochure will be available in the future. Please contact the Brain Injury Services Unit to request them.



# Upcoming events

## TRAININGS

The following training's will be held at the Elizabethtown Tourism and Convention Center. Please contact BIAK at 502/493-0609 to register or for more information. All dates and location are subject to change.

### April 18-19, 2001

ABI Medicaid Waiver Basic Training

### April 20, 2001

ABI Medicaid Waiver Training of Trainers

### May 16-17, 2001

ABI Medicaid Waiver Basic Training

### May 18, 2001

ABI Medicaid Waiver Training of Trainers

Case Management Training is now being conducted through the Brain Injury Services Unit. Please contact Amy DiLorenzo at 502/564-3615 for more information and to schedule.

## PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR

## SERIES/CONTINUING EDUCATION

The following continuing education opportunities will be held at the Frazier Rehabilitation Center in Louisville from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 4th floor Activity Room. For more information call 502/582-7484:

### April 4, 2001

Medications Used With Brain Injury.

### April 11, 2001

Life After Rehab: Solving Problems in the Real World

### April 18, 2001

Individuals With Brain Injury: What Happens to Personal and Social Relationships?

### April 25, 2001

Returning to Work or Productive Life Roles After Brain Injury.

### May 2, 2001

Physical Deficits, Exercise and Ath-



Spring 2001

A graphic of a calendar for Spring 2001, tilted at an angle. The text "Spring 2001" is written in a bold, sans-serif font at the top. Below the text is a grid representing the calendar months. A red circle is drawn around the date April 11th.

letics After Brain Injury

### May 9, 2001

Things to Do, Things to Avoid, After a Brain Injury

### May 16, 2001

Post-Acute Rehabilitation Services for Individuals With Brain Injury.

### May 23, 2001

Insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, & Social Security Disability: Information for Family Members.

### May 30, 2001

Rancho Los Amigos Level of Recovery Scale After Brain Injury.



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[chs.state.ky.us](http://chs.state.ky.us)  
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<http://dmhmrs.chr.state.ky.us>